

**LONG TERM COMMUNITY RECOVERY****JOINT TASK FORCE****Meeting Notes****November 7, 2012 – 10:00 a.m.****ATTENDEES**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>AGENCY &amp; INFORMATION</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AGENCY &amp; INFORMATION</b>
Rocky Milliman	ADECA LTCR	Corlis Floyd	ADECA LTCR
Benny Harris	AEMA	Joey Hester	NARCOG
Ken Hollingsworth	ADECA Workforce Investment	Jim Corcoran	FEMA (LTCR Branch Director)
William (Bill) Lokey	Witt Associates	John Olsen	FDIC
Steve Pratt	Witt Associates	Amanda Phan	Witt Associates
Elizabeth Brown	AL Historical Commission	Paul Fay	Witt Associates
Stan Hale	USDA RD	Art Pearce	AL Habitat for Humanity
John Colon	Neighborhood Housing Services Birmingham	Joseph Clark	Neighborhood Housing Services Birmingham
<b>Via telephone:</b>			
De'An Bass	FEMA (Holt Community)	Marian Wingo	FEMA (DeKalb County/Rainsville)
Pete Gozza	FEMA (Cordova)	Chris Cunningham	FEMA
Antonia Martinez	FEMA	Charlotte Koestler	Witt Associates
Mike Shafer	CAPNA	Hollis Wormsby	HUD Birmingham
Pam Clay	DeKalb County Economic Development Authority	Ronnie Davis	USDA RD
Pam Toney	North AL MRC	Virginia Morgan White	ACES - AU
Bob Johnson	Habitat Tuscaloosa	David Young	Alabama Housing Finance Authority
Lisa Turley	Mental Health	Ashley Kerr	Low Income Housing Coalition of AL

**AGENDA ITEMS****Welcome**

- Rocky Milliman, LTCR Coordinator, called the meeting to order and welcomed those present. He informed task force members that this meeting will be the last one for the year. Monthly meetings will continue beginning January 2013.

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- Because the FEMA staff will be demobilized before the January meeting, Rocky publicly thanked the FEMA team for their hard work, dedication and assistance in Alabama's recovery process to date. He further extended his gratitude to all the recovery partners who have, and who continue to dedicate their time and effort to recovery.

#### **Accept Meeting Notes**

- The FEMA Recovery Manager for the Holt Community pointed out that the September 20 meeting notes incorrectly stated that "Form 1023 had been submitted to the IRS for 501(c)(3) designation." The notes should have stated that steps were continuing to complete the application for submission.
- The notes from the September 20, 2012, meeting of the Joint Task Force were approved with the correction noted.

#### **Community Needs** (Seed Funding)

- Seed money to get projects up and running continues to be a need in the communities. Please let the LTRC office know if you are aware of sources that could meet the need.

#### **FEMA Update**

- FEMA's LTRC Branch Director, Jim Corcoran, reported that the FEMA team would end their term in Alabama on December 31, 2012. However, the recovery manager for DeKalb County has completed her six months term and will depart Alabama at Thanksgiving.
- Jim also expressed his appreciation to all of Alabama's recovery partners who have supported the FEMA staff while on assignment in the state.

#### **Field Reports from RMs** (Current projects/activities include):

##### **CORDOVA**

- The city will move forward with the demolition of its downtown once they receive FEMA's approval.
- Site preparation for the new grocery store will begin as soon as the grant for the work is received.
- Bid documents and a request for proposal are being prepared to hire a demolition contractor for the downtown buildings; bid documents need to be prepared for construction of the grocery store.
- Plans are underway to hire a recovery manager.
- The city is considering hiring a project manager for all projects proposed in the recovery plan.
- All the paperwork is complete for the purchase of the former grocery store property, which was discovered to be in a 100-year flood plain. The City intends to use the property to build a downtown park.

##### **DEKALB COUNTY/RAINSVILLE**

- Carrie Lea has assumed the role of Director of the DeKalb County LTRC. The group continues to grow and strengthen with the support of the County Commission, the Emergency Management Agency, the Economic Development Authority and the Community Action Agency.
- November 23 is the scheduled departure date for FEMA's current Recovery Manager.

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- The City of Rainsville did submit a CDBG Supplemental Disaster Funds' application for an infrastructure project. Future plans include the submission of applications for other DeKalb County projects for consideration in the 2013 CDBG funding cycle.

#### HOLT

- Nonprofit Development Update – The 1023 application to the IRS is still being developed and the strategic planning, mostly complete, will be finished at the November board meeting. The strategic plan will be submitted to the board at the December board meeting. In addition to the final strategic planning activities, the November board meeting will include team building and communications exercises.
- Nonprofit Committees Update – Each board member was assigned the task to revitalize or establish one of the eight committees. Some committees are coming together better than others. The committees were encouraged to start small and develop a strong base before expanding.
- The FEMA Corps volunteers reached out to local businesses to gather contact information and provide disaster preparedness information. Business owners and others will be invited to a local Leadership Roundtable meeting to help coordinate and guide the Holt area recovery. The board is also working to establish a communications network through the ten local churches.
- Cheryl Morgan and students from Auburn University's Urban Studio led a town hall meeting on November 5, 2012, to delve deeper into the proposed uses and community priorities for the space. Earlier in the day, they measured and sketched five of the six buildings at the old elementary school in Holt, the proposed site. Urban Studio's work should be completed in early 2013, after which a rehab/renovation budget could be developed. Board members Becky Reamey and Bill Yeager are putting together a proposal for the school board.
- The greening grant from the Tombigbee RC&D was extended to February 28, 2013, to accommodate tree planting in November, January and February. The Tuscaloosa County Extension Office is providing three successive workshops (November 19, 25 & 29, 6:00-8:00 pm at Holt High School) and soil testing for Holt area residents. Two board members attended the Alabama Trails Conference on November 1 & 2, 2012.
- The FEMA Corps volunteers started a property conditions survey that will be continued by the committee. The committee will conduct door-to-door outreach to ensure that everyone knows of the available assistance and to encourage them to register with the disaster case management program. One of the HOLT in Action nonprofit board members is serving on Community Service Program of West Alabama's separate Housing Committee for the CDBG disaster supplement funds.
- Community Cleanup Day – December 1, 2012, 8:00am-12:00pm
- Holt Community Christmas Choir Concert – December 8, 2012, 5:00pm

#### HACKLEBURG

- The Hackleburg downtown redevelopment area project has several grant applications pending. The redevelopment area is the "centerpiece" of Hackleburg's recovery plan.
- An all day planning meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 12 with the development group working on the commercial center that is part of the downtown redevelopment area. Senator Bedford and other elected officials will be in attendance.

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- The Hackleburg CDC is working with a web developer and graphic designer to develop a web based public relations campaign entitled “The Will to Rebuild.”

#### PHIL CAMPBELL

- A sewer and wastewater project is currently underway in the area around Campbell Arms Apartments installing gravity-fed sewer.
- A water, sewer and wastewater infrastructure project is planned for the Phil Campbell Industrial Park, with a funding application pending with EDA and the required match funding from ADECA.
- Site preparation is underway for the first tenant to construct an 80,000 square foot distribution facility at the Industrial Park, with plans for future expansion up to 240,000 square feet.
- Based on the results of the Housing Market Study (completed by CAPNA in October), Phil Campbell has worked with CAPNA and NACOLG to create a plan and an application for funding for a 24-unit affordable family housing development in Phil Campbell.
- Phil Campbell has a new mayor (Steve Bell) and one new council person (Lynn Landers). After the transition meeting on November 5, meeting dates for the council remain the same (the first and third Tuesday of each month) and city staff remains the same. FEMA RM hopes to get former Mayor Mays to serve on the recovery committee.
- The FEMA Recovery Manager is working to gain more community involvement in the Phil Campbell recovery process.
- Design Alabama will be conducting site visits to Hackleburg and Phil Campbell on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Design Alabama is going to help both communities further develop their recovery plans and projects.

#### Witt Associates (Draft Strategic Plan)

- Bill Lokey presented a summary of the draft Five Year ADECA LTRC Strategic Recovery Plan during the second half of the meeting.
- The presentation described general planning elements, which include the purpose, scope, vision and mission. The plan also includes specific goals, objectives, actions and tasks (for clarity, actions and tasks have replaced strategies and tactics).
- Feedback provided by members of the JTF will be incorporated into the next plan draft.
- Members are encouraged to provide feedback throughout the process.
- The next draft will be completed prior to Thanksgiving.

#### Updates to Current Programs & Support Being Provided to the Communities

- Ronnie Davis with USDA RD reported that USDA is beginning its grant and loan funding cycle for 2013 and encouraged everyone to take advantage of their low rates and long terms.
- John Olsen of FDIC shared a Q & A website (<http://www.ffiec.gov/cra/default.htm>) that provides useful and detailed information regarding the Community Reinvestment Act. Another housing resource that might be of interest to our partners is the Alabama Multifamily Loan Consortium, Inc., located at 534 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104, telephone 334-265-7156 or toll free at 866-811-5351.
- Rocky Milliman informed the group that ADECA’s CDBG staff is working to complete the review of all the applications submitted for supplemental CDBG funding and hope to be able to announce awards sometime in December.
- After the teleconference ended, Benny Harris of AEMA provided the task force members with the following stats: AEMA has received, reviewed and forwarded to FEMA for funding safe

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room applications totaling 62 million dollars (17 million for individual safe rooms and 45 million for community safe rooms). FEMA's review of the Town of Geiger's safe room is slated to be completed and funded by mid December.

#### **Next Meeting**

- Due to the upcoming holiday season, the next meeting of the task force will be scheduled for early January. A notice will be emailed to task force members approximately 10 to 14 days prior to the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.